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Final two defendants in south side quadruple homicide plead guilty

(Indianapolis, Ind.) – Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that Valencia Williams and Anthony LaRussa have pleaded guilty to charges related to the murders of Walter Burnell, Jacob Rodemich, Kristy Sanchez, and Hayley Navarro. According to the terms of the plea agreement, Williams has pleaded guilty to one count of Murder and LaRussa has pleaded guilty to one count Conspiracy to Commit Robbery (Class A Felony). The incident occurred on February 20, 2014, in the 3400 block of South Parker Ave.

Kenneth Rackemann, Valencia Williams, Anthony LaRussa, and Samantha Bradley conspired to rob Walter Burnell and during the course of that robbery the victims were killed. Rackemann shot and killed Burnell, Rodemich, and Sanchez and wounded Navarro. At the direction of Rackemann, Williams shot and killed Navarro.

“The guilty pleas today brings to a conclusion the successful prosecution of the individuals responsible for this senseless, drug-related murder of four victims,” Prosecutor Curry stated.

Pursuant to the plea agreement, a potential sentence for Williams and LaRussa is left to the discretion of the court. A sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 2 at 10:30 a.m. in Criminal Court 1.

Kenneth Rackemann pleaded guilty in 2016 and is currently serving four consecutive life sentences without parole for the murders and an additional 20 years for one charge of Robbery (Class B Felony). A fourth co-defendant, Samantha Bradley, has previously pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Robbery (Class A Felony) and is awaiting sentencing.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.